CLAIMS

1. A method of setting parameters of a real time packet-based connection over a communication network, comprising:

identifying, by a particular network element, a real-time packet based connection;

selecting, by the particular network element, a value for at least one end-point parameter of the identified connection; and

selecting, by the particular network element, a value for at least one network parameter of the identified connection.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the selecting of the values of the end-point parameter and the network parameter is performed during setup of the connection.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one end-point parameter comprises a negotiated parameter.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one end-point parameter comprises at least one non-negotiated parameter.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one end-point parameter comprises a jitter buffer size.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one end-point parameter comprises a frame size of transmitted packets on the connection.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one end-point parameter comprises a codec type.

8. A method according to any claim 1, wherein the at least one network parameter comprises a global parameter.

9. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one network parameter comprises a route to be traversed by the packets of the connection.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one network parameter comprises a header compression method to be applied to the packets of the connection.

11. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one network parameter comprises an MTU value of at least one routing unit of the network.

12. A method according to claim 1, comprising receiving by the particular network element a value of a quality of service QoS attribute of the network, and wherein the selecting of the network parameter and the end-point parameter is performed responsive to the value of the QoS attribute.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the value of the QoS attribute is determined before the connection is established.

14. A method according to claim 12, wherein the QoS attribute comprises a jitter value of links of the network.

15. A method according to claim 12, wherein the QoS attribute comprises a delay value of links of the network.

16. A method according to claim 12, wherein the QoS attribute comprises an available bandwidth value of links of the network.

17. A method according to claim 12, wherein the QoS attribute comprises a packet loss value of links of the network.

18. A method according to claim 1, wherein selecting the value for the at least one end-point parameter comprises selecting the value of the end-point parameter responsive to the selected value of the network parameter.

19. A method according to claim 1, wherein selecting the value of the network parameter is performed responsive to the selected value of the end-point parameter.

20. A method according to claim 1, wherein selecting the value for the at least one end-point parameter comprises selecting a codec responsive to a delay of a selected route for the connection, such that the total delay of the route in the codec is smaller than a predetermined value.

21. A method according to claim 1, wherein selecting of the network parameter value is performed responsive to a type of the connection.

22. A method according to claim 1, comprising transmitting the value of the at least one end-point parameter to an end-point of the connection and transmitting the value of the network parameter to at least one routing unit for implementation thereby.

23. A method according to claim 1, wherein the particular network element is not an end-point of the connection.

24. A method according to claim 1, wherein the particular network element selects parameter values for a plurality of different connections substantially concurrently.

25. A method of setting parameters of a real time packet-based connection over a communication network, comprising:

collecting quality of service attribute values of the network, by one or more network elements;

selecting a value for at least one end-point parameter of the connection, responsive to the collected attribute values; and

selecting a value for at least one network parameter of the connection, responsive to the collected attribute values.

26. A method according to claim 25, wherein the values of the at least one end-point parameter and the at least one network parameter are selected before either of the parameter values is implemented.

27. A method of setting parameters of a real time packet-based connection over a communication network, comprising:

determining a value for at least one end-point parameter of the connection; and

selecting a value for at least one network parameter of the connection, responsive to the determined value of the at least one end-point parameter.

28. A method according to claim 27, wherein the at least one network parameter is selected before the value of the end-point parameter is implemented.

29. A method according to claim 27, wherein determining the value of the at least one end-point parameter comprises receiving the value from a unit that determined the value.

30. A method according to claim 27, wherein determining the value of the at least one end-point parameter comprises selecting the value of the at least one end-point parameter.

31. A method of setting parameters of a real time packet-based connection over a communication network, comprising:

determining a value for at least one network parameter of the connection; and

selecting, before implementing the selected value of the network parameter, a value for at least one end-point parameter of the connection, responsive to the determined value of the at least one network parameter.

32. A method according to claim 31, wherein the at least one network parameter comprises a route for the connection.

33. A method according to claim 31, wherein determining the value of the at least one network parameter comprises selecting the value.

34. Apparatus for determining parameter values of a real time packet-based connection over a communication network, comprising:

an input interface for receiving information regarding real time connections between end-point units; and

a processor adapted to select for at least one connection a value for at least one end-point parameter and for at least one network parameter.

35. Apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the input interface is adapted to receive the information by receiving control packets of the connections.

36. Apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the processor additionally identifies real-time packet based connections.

37. A method of setting parameters of a real time packet-based connection over a communication network, comprising:

collecting quality of service attribute values of the network, by a first network element;

selecting a value for at least one non-negotiated end-point parameter of a connection of which a second network element is an end-point, responsive to the collected attribute values; and

implementing the selected parameter value by the second network element.

38. A method according to claim 37, wherein the non-negotiated end-point parameter comprises a jitter buffer size.

39. A method according to claim 37, wherein selecting the value for the parameter is performed by the first network element.

40. A method according to claim 37, wherein selecting the value for the parameter is performed by the second network element.

41. A method of setting parameters of a plurality of real time packet-based connections between end-point elements, over a communication network, comprising:

collecting quality of service attribute values of the network, by a particular network element;

selecting, by the particular network element, values for at least one end-point parameter of a plurality of connections over the network; and

implementing the selected parameter values in respective end-points of the connections.

42. A method according to claim 41, wherein the value of the parameter for at least one connection is selected responsive to the value of the parameter selected for at least one other connection.

43. A method of setting parameters of a real time packet-based connection over a communication network, comprising:

receiving, by an intermediary network element, a signaling packet transmitted between end-points of a real time packet based connection;

determining a value for at least one end-point parameter of the connection;

changing, by the intermediary network element, the value of at least one field of the received signaling packet, responsive to the determined value of the parameter; and

forwarding, from the intermediary network element, the packet with the changed value.

44. A method according to claim 43, wherein determining the value comprises determining a codec to be used.

45. A method according to claim 44, wherein changing the value of the field comprises changing a field stating codec types supported by an end-point to include only the determined codec.